



REVISED PUBLIC NOTICE

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF AN ALASKA POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (APDES) GENERAL PERMIT TO DISCHARGE TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

DEC discovered an error on the date listed for the Anchorage public hearing on the original public notice posted on November 25th. This revised notice lists the correct date.

A Fact Sheet and associated documents are available for review. For inquiries or to request copies of documents, contact:

DEC Contact:

Chris Foley
555 Cordova Street
99501-2617
907-269-7504
Chris.foley@alaska.gov

Draft Permit Public Notice Period:

Public Notice Start Date: **November 22, 2013**
Public Notice Expiration Date: **January 27, 2014**

Permit No.:

AKG283100

Permit Name:

Geotechnical Surveys in State Waters in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas

Proposed Permit Coverage: General permit AKG283100 covers discharges of pollutants from geotechnical facilities in state waters in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas. The Area of Coverage includes State waters beginning at Point Hope in the west and then east to the boundary with Canada. Geotechnical surveys are necessary to evaluate placement of structures in offshore areas, (e.g., oil and gas development). Geotechnical surveys include collecting marine sediment borings to:

- Evaluate the engineering behavior of subsurface materials;
- Determine the relevant physical, mechanical and chemical properties of these materials;
- Assess risks posed by site conditions, including seafloor or shallow depth geologic hazards;
- Locate potential archaeological resources and potential hard bottom habitats for avoidance; and

- Assess specific locations to inform the placement of platforms, pipelines, or other infrastructure.

Description of Discharge: Based on discharges applicable to geotechnical activities, the following wastewater discharges are authorized under the permit:

<u>DISCHARGE NUMBER</u>	<u>DISCHARGES DISCRIPTION</u>
001	Water-based drilling fluids and drill cutting
002	Deck Drainage
003	Domestic Wastewater
004	Graywater
005	Desalination Unit Wastes
007	Boiler Blowdown
008	Fire Control System Test Water
009	Non-Contact Cooling Water
010	Uncontaminated Ballast Water
011	Bilge Water
012	Excess Cement Slurry

Note: This permit does not authorize drilling to hydrocarbon reservoirs.

Mixing Zone: Upon request by the applicant, the General Permit authorizes 100 meter cylindrical mixing zones for discharges and parameters as follows:

- Drilling Fluids and Drill Cuttings (001): The mixing zone applies to Aluminum, Antimony, Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Iron, Lead, Mercury, Nickel, Selenium, Silver, Thallium, and Zinc.
- Domestic Wastewater (003) and Graywater (004): The mixing zone applies to total residual chlorine.

Zone of Deposit: The General Permit authorizes 100 meter cylindrical zones of deposit for water-based drilling fluids and drill cuttings at the seafloor.

Tentative Determination:

DEC has tentatively determined to issue a discharge permit for the activity described above.

Public Comments:

Written comments on the APDES draft general permit must be submitted by the close of the public notice period. Please direct written comments to the attention of Chris Foley at the address or email identified above. All comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the commenter and a concise statement of comment on the permit condition(s) and the relevant facts upon which the comment is based. Comments of either support or concern which are directed at specific, cited permit requirements are appreciated. Mailed comments must be postmarked on or before the expiration date of the public notice.

DEC will consider all significant comments when making the final decision, and will respond to received comments in a Response to Comments document issued when DEC issues a final permit. The Response to Comments will be made available to the public.

While DEC is proposing to issue a permit for geotechnical facilities in state waters, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is concurrently proposing to issue a counterpart general

permit for geotechnical facilities in federal waters in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas. The public comment period for the EPA permit coincides with the DEC permit. In addition, DEC and EPA both anticipate significant public interest in the draft permits and will hold joint hearings and public meetings at the following dates, times, and locations:

Public Meetings*	Public Hearings
January 6, 2014 Kaktovik Community Center Kaktovik, AK Meeting 6pm–9pm	January 8, 2014 Inupiat Heritage Center, Barrow Open House: 4pm – 5pm Presentation: 6pm – 7pm Testimony: 7pm – 10pm
January 7, 2014 Wainwright Community Center Wainwright, AK Meeting 6pm–9pm	January 10, 2014 Teleconference Only Presentation & Testimony: 4pm – 7pm Teleconference: 1-866-299-3188; code: 9072711272#
*If EPA and DEC are unable to attend these public meetings in person due to weather conditions, the agencies will arrange to hold the meetings via teleconference.	

DEC will transmit the final permit, fact sheet (amended as appropriate), and Response to Comments to anyone who provided comments during the public review period or requested to be notified of DEC final decision.

DEADLINE FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS

January 27, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. AST

Administrative Record:

The APDES draft permit, fact sheet, and associated documents are available for public review at the ADEC offices located in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau. Please contact the office of your choice to arrange for hard copies of the documents to be available for your review.

555 Cordova Street

Anchorage, AK 99501

907-269-6285

610 University Avenue

Fairbanks, AK 99709

907-451-2100

410 Willoughby Ave #303

Juneau, AK 99811

907-465-5300

If you would like to see any additional supporting technical documents, contact Chris Foley.

The documents are also accessible from the DEC website at:

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/wwdp/index.htm>

To receive email notifications about the APDES Program, including when permits are available to review, follow the link below to join the APDES email list.

http://dec.alaska.gov/water/npdes/npdes_email_list.htm

Disability Reasonable Accommodation Notice

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title II of the

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need a special accommodation in order to participate in this public process, please contact Deborah Pock at (907) 269-0291 or TDD Relay Service 1-800-770-8973/TTY or dial 711 within 30 days of publication of this notice to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.